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WATER RESOURCES  
WESTERN REGION

**WATER DISTRICT #63**  
**MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL MEETING**

**JANUARY 11, 2016**

Chairman Vern Case called the meeting to order at 1:04 P.M. There were 76 water users and guests in attendance.

Chairman Case introduced the Advisory Committee members to those present.

**Minutes:**

Secretary Sam Rosti read the minutes from the January 2015 annual meeting. There was one spelling correction in New Business, a. Cloud Seeding; the word form was corrected to from in the section with Jon Bowling discussing the PUC. It was moved by Gail Glasgow to accept the minutes as corrected. Second by Ron Blickenstaff. Motion passed with all in favor.

Secretary Rosti read the minutes from the July 2015 special meeting regarding weather modification in the Boise basin. Motion to accept the minutes as read by Oscar Baumhoff. Second by Gail Glasgow. Motion passed with all in favor.

**Adopt Resolution A:** Motion by Martin Galvin to adopt Resolution A. Second by Larry Story. Motion passed with all in favor.

**Elect Secretary:** It was moved by Jim Payne to elect Sam Rosti as Secretary for 2016. Second by Martin Galvin. Motion passed with all in favor.

**Elect Chairman:** Sam Rosti moved to elect Vern Case as Chairman for 2016. Second by Gail Glasgow. Motion passed with all in favor.

**Elect Advisory Committee:** Chairman Case read the names of the Advisory Committee members and asked if anyone else was interested in the committee positions. Chairman Case also introduced Roland Springer, U.S. Bureau of Reclamation, Snake River Area Office Manager as Jerry Gregg's replacement on the committee. It was moved by Ron Platt to elect the current members with the addition of Roland Springer. Second by Ron Sedlacek. Motion passed with all in favor.

**Watermaster's Report:** Watermaster Rex Barrie reported on the 2015 water year including snowpack, rental pool operations, natural flows and financial statements. It was reported that all storage accounts were considered filled by the "Flood Control Committee", Boise Project Board of Control, Bureau Of Reclamation and Water District #63 with Liz Cresto, IDWR attending the committee meeting. Natural flows declined early in 2015 and the "Day of

Allocation” was reported as June 10, 2015. About a month earlier than normal. Due to the early runoff storage was below normal at the end of the season with 34% capacity. Reservoir levels were reported at 43 % on December 31, 2015.

Rental Pool activity was above average with 62,982 acre feet used for flow augmentation and 12,031 acre feet for in basin use. \$97,516.00 revenue was generated from Rental Pool administrative fees. Upper basin administration is progressing slowly due to limited resources.

Bank balances on December 31, 2015 were reported at, \$9,101.63 checking, \$314,311.89 money market and \$48,029.83 state investment. Rental Pool participants will be paid \$200,935.87 and the Idaho Water Resources Board administrative fees will be \$20,135.83.

Joe King moved to approve the 2015 Watermaster’s Report as presented. Second by Oscar Baumhoff. Motion Passed with all in favor.

The 2016 Budget was presented at \$214,000.00. This includes \$125,000.00 for weather modification/cloud seeding in the basin. Ron Sedlacek moved to approve the 2016 budget as presented. Second by Oscar Baumhoff. Motion passed with all in favor.

#### **Old Business:**

- a. **Boise Basin Refill:** Ron Sedlacek asked about the status of the “refill” issue. Chairman Case asked Director Gary Spackman if he would like to comment. Director Spackman stated he did not come prepared to give a presentation but would answer questions if asked. Chairman Case asked Bryce Farris if he could provide an update of the issue. Mr. Farris gave a general overview of events leading up to the current status and explained it was in the hands of the courts at this point and we would have to wait to see what the outcome would be.
- b. **Weather Modification:** Chairman Case reviewed events leading up to this program and asked if Idaho Power was present to give us an update. No one from Idaho Power was present to report. Watermaster Barrie stated he had talked with Idaho Power and they had taken advantage of the storms in December and had been seeding.
- c. **Upper Basin Administration:** Rex Barrie reviewed progress in the upper basin and explained due to the limited resources to cover the entire basin things were moving a slower pace but progress was being made and contact with upper basin users was in progress. Rex also reported that as a part of the order, he had received numerous calls from lower basin water right holders regarding drains and springs.

## **New Business:**

- a. **Adopt Resolutions “B thru K”:** it was moved by Oscar Baumhoff to adopt Resolutions B thru K for 2016. Second by Martin Galvin. Motion Passed with all in favor.
- b. **Elect Watermaster:** It was moved by Mack Myers to elect Rex Barrie as Watermaster for 2016. Second by Martin Galvin. Motion Passed with all in favor.
- c. **Elect Assistant Watermaster:** It was moved by Dave Vail to elect Mark Zirschky as 2016 assistant Watermaster for 2016. Second by Alan Newbill. Motion passed with all in favor.
- d. **Audit Report:** The audit report was prepared by Mr. Gary Merkle and an overview was presented by Sam Rosti. Rex stated that a copy of the audit was available in his office for anyone wanting to examine it. Motion to approve the audit by Sam Rosti. Second by Martin Galvin. Motion passed with all in favor.

## **Guests:**

- a. **Norm Semanko:** Norm reported on current issues pertaining to water users in the state. Waters of the U.S. (W.O.T.U.S.) continues to be of major concern to all. Endangered species issues, DEQ and the Columbia River Treaty were also discussed. Norm thanked the water users for their continued support of the legislative intern program and introduced Andy Briner as the current IWUA intern. Norm also discussed the upcoming Idaho Water Users Convention and format.
- b. **Liz Cresto, IDWR:** Liz reviewed the final account numbers for 2015 and reported that evaporation loss was 16,000 AF, higher than normal, and operational loss was 2000 AF. Liz stated that the operational loss may be the lowest on record and congratulated Rex Barrie on his efforts at keeping operational loss at low levels. Sam Rosti thanked Liz for all she does to help the water users and asked those in attendance to give her a round of applause. Liz stated that if anyone has any questions about the accounting records that they should call her to discuss this.
- c. **Brian Sauer, USBOR:** Brian reported on the current conditions in the basin and compared them with last year. The January 1, 2016 runoff is forecast at 1.9 MAF compared to last year’s January 1 forecast of 1.1 MAF. Brian also reviewed similar El Nino years and showed comparisons.
- d. **Roland Springer, USBOR:** Mr. Springer has taken over the area managers position formally held by Jerry Gregg at the Snake River Area Office. Roland introduced Lanie Paquin, deputy area manager and James Taylor, environmental compliance manager. Roland discussed the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary celebration at Arrowrock Dam, Minidoka Spillway replacement, endangered species, and other issues. He discussed

current projects being done in the basin including, hollow jet valve replacement at Anderson Ranch and wicket gates at Diversion Dam. The Bureau is still working on the analysis of the ongoing ideas of raising both Arrowrock and Anderson Ranch dams to increase storage capacity in the basin. Mr. Springer also discussed the Pump back project being proposed at Anderson and said no decision has been made on this project yet.

Rex Barrie announced that the next annual meeting of the water users of Water District No. 63 will be held on Monday the 9th of January 2017.

A motion by Sam Rosti to adjourn. Second by Gail Glasgow. Meeting adjourned at 4:20 P.M.

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Vern Case, Chairman

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Sam Rosti, Sect/Treas.

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Date